

**NOMINATION**

Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund  
Board of Directors  
Class Assignments

**Class 1992**

Ernest J. Collazo, Esq.  
Miguel A. García Jr.  
Rev. Joseph Fitzpatrick  
Domingo García  
Dorothy B. James, Ph.D.  
David Jones, Esq.  
Joy V. Jones, Esq.  
Victor Marrero, Esq.  
José A. Olivieri, Esq.  
José S. Reynoso  
Benito Romano, Esq.

**Class 1993**

Luis Alvarez  
Jorge Batista, Esq.  
William F. Callejo, Esq.  
Wilfredo Caraballo, Esq.  
Andrés Gil, Esq.  
Angelo Giordani  
Andrés Gómez Vázquez  
Harold S. Lewis Jr., Esq.  
René Ramirez, Esq.  
Celina Romany, Esq.  
Sonia Sotomayor, Esq.  
Jaime Toronni, Jr., Esq.

**Class 1994**

Mari Carmen Aponte, Esq.  
Anna Carbonell  
Patricia Díaz Dennis, Esq.  
Ricardo R. Fernández, Ph.D.  
Amy Gladstein, Esq.  
Grace Ibañez Friedman, Ph.D.  
Rafael A. Lantigua, M.D.  
Alba J. Rovira-Paoli, Esq.  
Isaura Santiago Santiago, Ph.D.  
Salvador Tió, Esq.  
Martin Zuckerman, Esq.

(revised 1/2/92)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

May 29, 1992

**AGENDA**

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 24, 1992**

**II. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Development

B. Education

C. Finance

1. Budget

2. Quarterly Financials

D. Litigation

**III. REPORT OF PRESIDENT/GENERAL COUNSEL**

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

Presentation by Mary Ann Policastro

PUERTO RICAN LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND, INC.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 24, 1992

MINUTES

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund was held on Friday January 24, 1992, at the offices of PRLDEF.

PRESENT

Mari-Carmen Aponte, Esq.  
William Callejo, Esq.  
Anna Carbonell  
Ernest Collazo, Esq.  
Fr. Joseph Fitzpatrick  
Angelo Giordani  
Amy Gladstein, Esq.  
Grace I. Friedman, Esq.  
Dorothy B. James  
David Jones, Esq.  
Joy V. Jones, Esq.  
Rafael Lantigua, MD  
Harold Lewis, Jr., Esq.  
Victor Marrero, Esq.  
Benito Romano, Esq.  
Celina Romany, Esq.  
Alba Rovira Paoli, Esq.  
José S. Reynoso  
Salvador Tió, Esq.  
Martin Zuckerman, Esq.

Jaime Taronjé and Wilfredo Caraballo joined the meeting after their election to the Board of Directors.

STAFF

Rubén Franco - President and General Counsel

Yvette Bravo-Weber - Director, Legal Education Division  
Elizabeth Dickinson - Director of Development and Public Relations  
Rafael Gómez - Fiscal Director  
Yocelyn Tarazona-Cornelio - Administrative Assistant

A quorum having been established, Ernest Collazo, called the meeting to order.

## **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made, duly seconded, and carried unanimously, adopting the minutes of the October, 23, 1991 meeting, after the following change was made:

regarding the motion made to amend the Investment Policy to allow for PRLDEF to invest in equities (page 3 of the minutes), the minutes reflect that the motion was duly seconded and passed, with one abstention. The minutes should read:

The motion was duly seconded and passed, with one opposition.

## **II. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

#### **1. Re-Election of Class of 1992**

In the absence of Luis Alvarez, the Nominations Committee Chair, Victor Marrero presented the names of the Board members of the Class of 1992, which the Nominations Committee recommended be re-elected for a term of three years:

Ernest J. Collazo  
Miguel A. García, Jr.  
Rev. Joseph Fitzpatrick  
Domingo García  
Dorothy B. James  
David Jones

Joy V. Jones  
Victor Marrero  
José A. Olivieri  
José S. Reynoso  
Benito Romano

A motion was made, duly seconded and carried.

#### **2. Election of Officers**

Mr. Marrero presented the recommendations for Board officers:

Ernest Collazo - as Chair  
Alba Rovira-Paoli - as 1st Vice-Chair  
Benito Romano - as 2nd Vice-Chair  
Martin Zuckerman - as Treasurer  
Anna Carbonell - as Secretary

A motion was made, duly seconded and carried.

### 3. New Members

Mr. Marrero presented the Nominations Committee's recommendations for new Board membership.

After a discussion of his qualifications, a motion was made, duly seconded and carried, electing Jaime Taronji to the Board of Directors.

After a discussion of his qualifications, a motion was made, duly seconded and carried, electing Wilfredo Caraballo to the Board of Directors.

The Board Chair nominated William Callejo and David Jones as Members-at-Large of the Executive Committee of the Board. A motion was made, duly seconded, and carried, with one abstention.

#### B. DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

José Reynoso reported on the activities of the Development Committee.

Mr. Reynoso reported that a special grant was received from the Rockefeller Foundation for technical support, primarily for fund raising, and for the direct mail campaign. He stated that because of the expense of a direct mail campaign, especially when outside consultants are used, we will attempt to do ours in-house, starting on a small scale.

Mr. Reynoso informed the Board that in the very near future they will be contacted by an outside consultant, Maryann Policastro, who is being funded through one of the special grants provided by the Ford Foundation. She will be doing a Board audit in order to determine how best to maximize each member's effectiveness on the Board. After the results of the audit are made available, Mr. Reynoso indicated that he would like to establish a "Development Council", which would include members of the Development Committee, as well as other members of the Board, based on their special strengths, to help work on specific projects. This "Development Council" would also include members of the community.

Elizabeth reported on the 1991 Annual Banquet. It is expected that the net proceeds for 1991 will be close to \$69,000.00, which is an increase from the \$55,000.00 of the previous year. The event was a huge success. There are still some outstanding accounts receivables. Work has commenced for the 1992 20th Anniversary banquet, which is being co-chaired by Martin Zuckerman and Anna Carbonell. The corporate honoree will be Saul Steinberg, CEO-Chair of Reliance Group Holdings. Martin Zuckerman and Elizabeth have met with their Vice President for Communications.

### C. EDUCATION COMMITTEE

William Callejo informed the Board that the Education Committee will meet immediately following the Board meeting. He referred the Board members to the Education Division section in the President's Report and to the copy of the meeting agenda.

Yvette Bravo-Weber reported on some of the special projects of the Education Division. She stated that work on the Directory of Latino Attorneys is proceeding. Letters have been mailed to hundreds of Latino Attorneys to enlist their involvement in the Directory. She requested from the Board the names of any Latino attorneys whom they feel should be contacted. More contacts are especially needed in the Midwest.

Ms. Bravo-Weber also reported on the progress of the Video Project and the Mentor Program. With respect to the latter, approximately 120 students have been paired with attorneys; the response has been very good.

Ms. Bravo-Weber informed the Board of efforts being carried out to seek funding for the Education Division. Most of the funds for the Legal Education Division currently come out of general operating funds. Research is being conducted to determine what foundations can be targeted for the specific projects of the Education Division.

### D. FINANCE COMMITTEE

At the meeting of October 23, 1991, suggestions were made to amend the Investment Policy. Alba Rovira Paoli reported on those amendments and revisions, as follows:

1) for investment purposes, the concept of the "prudent person rule" will be adhered to; 2) a section was added to Paragraph III - Investment Guidelines/Placement Restrictions - which encompasses restrictions relative to the Board's South Africa Resolution. This has been communicated to the investment manager, and a certified copy of the resolution will be provided to them once all of the documents have been executed; 3) III.c will reflect that investments must be made in securities publicly traded in a commonly recognized exchange in the U.S.; 4) in Section IV.c - Approved Investment Instruments - clarifications are made with regard to the investment grade of the securities; 5) IV.d was added, to allow for investments in corporate equities; 6) Section V - General Management of Funds - was amended to indicate that "All arrangements and agreements with each such Investment Manager shall be approved by the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee"; 7) a clarification was made in Section VII - Payment and Custody - to recognize that there will be investment management accounts; 8) a change was made in Section VIII, concerning the monthly report submitted by the Fiscal Director. The report will be provided by

the end of the second week of the month, instead of the first week of the month.

A discussion followed, after which a motion was made, duly seconded, and carried, with one abstention, to adopt the revised Investment Policy.

Rafael Gómez presented to the Board a report of our current financial status.

Victor Marrero noted that the organization is in healthy financial condition, which reflects good leadership. He stated that the budget has grown twenty fold since the organization was founded 20 years ago.

Mr. Marrero also pointed out that César Perales, who was one of the founders of PRLDEF, and the first President and General Counsel, was recently appointed Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services.

#### **D. LITIGATION COMMITTEE**

The Chairman of the Litigation Committee, Salvador Tió reported on the activities of the Litigation Committee, and on the committee meeting held 1/24/92. He referred the Board members to the report of the President and General Counsel for an update on the Voting Rights Project.

There was a discussion on the recent adoption of a statute by the State of New Jersey, which denies additional welfare benefits to mothers who have additional children. Wilfredo Caraballo, newly elected member of the Board and Public Advocate for the State of New Jersey, reported on this new statute, and stated that he is planning to call a meeting of all organizations concerned with the effect of the new statute. PRLDEF will be invited to attend.

Mr. Tió led a discussion on housing and community economic development. He indicated that it is important that emphasis be given in 1992 to raising funds for work in the area of housing. It was suggested that a symposium be held which would explore issues in the housing area. It was also suggested that an overview be done of the last 5-10 years of the organization, assessing what has been done, as well as what needs to be done in the litigation area. A Board retreat for 1993 was discussed.

#### **III. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT/GENERAL COUNSEL**

The written report of the President and General Counsel was submitted to the Board and Rubén Franco highlighted some of the points.



During the last year, Maria Ramos, from Development and Public Relations, left PRLDEF to study in South America. She was replaced by Damaris Bianchi, who was a legal secretary, and Damaris was replaced by Zobeira Martinez, who was the receptionist. There is an opening for a receptionist, and also for a person for Development and Public Relations.

Rubén reported on the Voting Rights Project and Arthur Baer expanded on the efforts of the organization in this area.

Regarding the Latinas Rights Initiative, areas of interest were highlighted. Rubén stated that Yvette and Elizabeth are researching possible funding sources for this project.

There is a proposal pending with JP Morgan for an undergraduate student to study the different AIDS programs and determine the extent to which those programs that serve Latinas are getting funded.

Jenny Rivera, Associate Counsel, was asked to join the meeting to report on Sheff v. O'Neill, our desegregation case in Hartford, Ct.

Regarding Development, Rubén reported that the Direct Mail Campaign is a priority for this year.

Jaime Taronji had questions on the plans for the Chicago office.

Rubén announced that PILC will hold an Open House on April 3rd, 1992, to thank some of the major contributors of the capital campaign. It was urged that all Board members make an effort to attend.

#### IV. NEW BUSINESS

Ernest Collazo reported on the Board contributions and informed that he has established three categories of contributions:

- 1) \$2,000.00
- 2) \$1,000.00
- 3) \$ 500.00

He will contact each Board member regarding their contribution.

Elizabeth explained the need for a Diversity of Interest Resolution for the Combined Federal Campaign. There was a motion to adopt the Diversity of Interest Resolution. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Rubén reported on the progress of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

It was announced that the next Board meeting will be on Friday, May 29th, at 4pm. The date of our October meeting will be set as soon as the date for the Banquet has been scheduled.

There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned.